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a point east of Washington, to carry him a prisoner to Richmond. Lincoln failed to attend the theatre at the expected time, and the fool-hardy plot was abandoned. In April, 1865, Booth formed a new plot for the taking off of the heads of the government, reserving to himself the bad pre-eminence of being Lincoln's murderer. A vivid account is given of that Good Friday's night, of the pursuit of the conspirators, and of the capture and death of Booth. The author makes a strong argument for the total unconstitutionality of the military tribunal that was convened for the trial of the guilty parties and suspects, and he leaves little room for doubt, not only that poor Mrs. Surratt was innocent, but that she was sacrificed in the place of her son, who at the time was in northern New York on another mission and soon escaped abroad. There is a discussion of the question upon whom must fall the dark responsibility for her sad fate. The account given of the capture of John H. Surratt, his trial and release is very interesting. The author deals with all these subjects in a frank and pleasant manner.

D. G.

HEADS OF FAMILIES. FIRST CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1790. STATE ENUMERATIONS OF VIRGINIA; FROM 1782 TO 1785. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1908; pp. 189, with index and map.

The United States Census Department has begun the good work of reprinting the detailed returns of the Census of 1790. Unfortunately those for Virginia are among several which have been lost.

Between 1782 and 1785 the State had enumerations made and a few of these remain among the State Archives. In place of the missing census of 1790 these enumerations have been printed, and form a collection of much interest to Virginians. If it should ever be the desire of the State to complete the work the material exists to a great extent. The land and personal property assessment books for all of the counties have been preserved beginning, generally, in 1782.

It is to be hoped that some day the State Archives department will have sufficient room and clerical force to gather these most valuable records from storage warehouses and dusty basements and have them arranged by counties and years. It is useless to say what a boon this would be to students of our history.

HISTORY OF NORTH CAROLINA. By Samuel A'Court Ashe. In two volumes. Volume I, from 1584 to 1783. Greensboro, Charles L. Van Noppen, publisher, 1908, pp. xxiv, 724, with 46 maps and illustrations.

Mr. Ashe has given in one compact and handsome volume the history of his native State from the period of Raleigh's explorations and settlements down to the close of the Revolutionary War. This is the